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North Dakota Homeland Security Anti-Terrorism Summary



The North Dakota Open Source Anti-Terrorism Summary is a product of the North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center (NDSLIC). It provides open source news articles and information on terrorism, crime, and potential destructive or damaging acts of nature or unintentional acts. Articles are placed in the Anti-Terrorism Summary to provide situational awareness for local law enforcement, first responders, government officials, and private/public infrastructure owners.

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NORTH DAKOTA

Interstate 29 closed from ND border to Watertown, SD. Authorities have launched a rescue operation after a ground blizzard stranded more than 150 vehicles February 2 on Interstate 29 in northeast South Dakota. There are no immediate reports of injuries. The Codington County Search and Rescue commander told KWAT radio that five vehicles are out, including a snow cat, a large machine that runs on tracks like a military tank. He said motorists were taken to a casino at Sisseton, a rest area at Wilmot, and a truck stop in Summit. A truck stop worker said the stretch of interstate is roughly 16 miles, between the towns of Peever and Summit. She said it is a valley where snow gets blown in and packs on the interstate. The interstate is closed between Watertown and the North Dakota border. Source: http://www.ksibam.com/artman/publish/article_2926.shtml

REGIONAL

(Minnesota) Minn. Senate votes to repeal ban on new nuclear plants. The Minnesota Senate voted February 2 to lift the state's ban on new nuclear power plants. Senators voted 50 to 14 in favor of a bill lifting the ban. The senate majority leader led the effort. One of the state's existing nuclear plants, in Monticello, is in her district. She said nuclear energy is part of the larger Republican agenda now that they control the legislature. The house has yet to vote on its version of the bill. Labor unions and business leaders support repealing the moratorium, but the governor has raised concerns about it. Source: <http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2011/02/02/senate-nuke-ban-bill/>

(Minnesota) Wadena man allegedly threatens to blow up Main Street; calls Tucson gunman a hero. A 39-year-old Wadena, Minnesota, man was arrested January 13 after he allegedly threatened to blow up several city buildings and churches after losing Medicare benefits, according to the Wadena Police chief. The suspect was charged with five felony counts of terroristic threats in Wadena County Court. According to the police chief, the suspect said that the Arizona gunman who shot a congress woman was his hero. The suspect allegedly told family members he was going to turn small gas tanks in his brother's garage into bombs. He allegedly told others he would use those bombs to burn down the Wadena Courthouse, Social Security office, and several churches. The suspect also threatened to ignite the gas line on Main Street in Wadena to start a major fire downtown. The suspect has a history of starting small fires, the police chief said. Police contacted the FBI and the Secret Service. The suspect will have to go under psychological exam before he is tried. Source: <http://ksax.com/article/stories/s1953496.shtml>

(Minnesota) Minnesota will see major floods in spring. Emergency response officials in Minnesota are gearing up for a busy spring as forecasts predict another year of major flooding. According to a meteorologist with the National Weather Service, "Every river in the state of Minnesota is at risk of flooding this spring." He said that a third consecutive rainy autumn season followed by twice the normal amount of snowfall across the entire state will swell rivers with melting snow. There is currently three to six inches of frozen snow on top of frozen ground all across Minnesota. "It's

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alarming because we've still got two months of winter [ahead]," he said. He expects significant overland flooding and rivers to back up due to ice jams, in addition to flooding due to excessive snowmelt. Officials warned that the flooding will close roads, major highways, back up sewer systems, and hit basements. The Minnesota Homeland Security and Emergency Management director is recommending that residents begin developing evacuation plans, take stock of their possessions, and raise appliances off of basement floors. Forecasts project that many major roadways and bridges that carry hundreds of thousands of cars a day will likely be closed due to flooding. Source: <http://homelandsecuritynewswire.com/minnesota-will-see-major-floods-spring>

(Minnesota) Albert Lea school fire deemed arson. The cause of the fire that damaged a classroom in Albert Lea, Minnesota, January 27 has been confirmed as arson. An Albert Lea fire investigator said the fire originated on a desk in a Lakeview Elementary fourth-grade classroom, located on the lower level of the school. Officials do not know what was used to start the fire. Samples from the scene are being tested in a lab for accelerants. Authorities were alerted to the fire at about 11:15 p.m. by fire alarms. While the fire was contained to a 5-foot-by-5-foot space, sprinklers caused water damage to nearby classrooms and hallways. The Albert Lea Police Department is also investigating. School administrators are hoping to resume class January 31. Source: <http://www.austindailyherald.com/2011/01/28/albert-lea-school-fire-deemed-arson/>

(Montana) Dillon man sentenced for involvement in Birch Creek fires. A 27-year-old Dillon, Montana, man was sentenced in federal court for his involvement in fires that were set in the Birch Creek area of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. The man was sentenced to serve 2 years probation and pay \$1,110.97 restitution after pleading guilty to damaging government property. According to the U.S. Attorney's office, the suspect and two other people tried to light dead or dying pine beetle infested trees on fire in the Black Mountain area of the Dillon Ranger District in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest October 17, 2009. The following day, the two other people reportedly lit trees on fire in the Birch Creek area. When authorities questioned one of the other suspects, he said the 27-year-old man was present October 17. One of the other suspects is currently employed with the U.S. Forest Service as a firefighter. He was a temporary employee in October 2009 and was involved in the suppression effort for the Birch Creek fires, according to the U.S. Attorney's office. When interviewed about the fires, he reportedly said he had no involvement. Source: <http://www.kbzk.com/news/dillon-man-sentenced-for-involvement-in-birch-creek-fires/>

NATIONAL

Watchdog: U.S. security on Canada border lacking. Less than one in every 100 miles of the U.S. border with Canada is adequately secured, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) said February 1. The GAO study said just 32 miles of the nearly 4,000-mile northern border —reached an acceptable level of security last year, according to the Border Patrol's assessment. The GAO, which is the investigative arm of Congress, also noted —a high reliance on law enforcement support from outside the border zone. The Presidential Administration has been under intense pressure to beef up security on the nearly 2,000-mile southwest border with Mexico, to prevent spillover from raging drug cartel violence in Mexico and to stem an influx of illegal immigrants. However, the report flagged what it said was a higher —terrorist threat on the northern border —given the large expanse of area with limited law enforcement coverage. It also noted drug, cash, weapons, and human smuggling networks operating across the northern frontier. The study urged greater government

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oversight and coordination between the Department of Homeland Security and its partnering agencies on the border. Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/41378701/ns/world_news/

Drillers used diesel in 'fracking,' report says. Oil and gas companies have injected more than 32 million gallons of fluids containing diesel fuel underground without first getting government approval, a report by congressional Democrats said February 1. Oklahoma was second on a list of states where the most diesel was injected from 2005 to 2009, according to the investigation. Of the total amount used, 3.3 million gallons was injected in Oklahoma, the report claimed. The investigation found that 12 of 14 companies hired to perform hydraulic fracturing, also known as "fracking," used diesel alone or in a mixture during the 5-year period. Lawmakers said the use of diesel fuel by large companies, such as Halliburton and BJ Services Co., appears to violate the Safe Drinking Water Act, because the companies never obtained permission from state or federal authorities to use the diesel fuel. The probe found no evidence that the use of diesel fuel contaminated water supplies in the 19 states where it was injected. "The industry has been saying they stopped injecting toxic diesel fuel into wells. But our investigation showed this practice has been continuing in secret and in apparent violation" of the Safe Drinking Water Act, said the panel's senior Democrat and a former chairman. Source:

http://www.tulsaworld.com/business/article.aspx?subjectid=49&articleid=20110201_49_E1_CUTLIN874862&allcom=1

INTERNATIONAL

14 die in 48 hours in Juarez. At least 14 people were killed in 48 hours in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, including the February 1 deaths of a municipal police officer and a newspaper vendor who police believe was targeted because of her job. In a statement, federal police said they believed the female newspaper vendor was targeted by an area gang because she was seen as a threat to the gang's control of street vendors. "La Linea thought she was discriminating against newspaper vendors they were extorting," a municipal police spokesman said. The woman distributed the El Diario de Juarez newspaper, the most widely circulated paper in the city. Police said they had arrested a suspect who told them he was paid about \$250 for the killing. Also February 1, a municipal police officer was killed after armed gunmen shot him 15 times at a crowded intersection while his car stopped at a red light. The killing happened in front of dozens of people and caused panic, a journalist at the scene said.

Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/americas/02/02/mexico.violence/>

Russian police identify airport bomber. The man who detonated a bomb at Domodedovo Airport in Moscow, Russia, January 24, killing 35 people, was a 20-year-old from the North Caucasus, the Russian Investigative Committee said January 29. The agency also said it was clear the bomb targeted foreigners. Although there has been no claim of responsibility for the bombing, suspicion has centered on the North Caucasus, where a jihadist insurgency has been fighting to establish an Islamic emirate. The bombing came less than 1 year after suicide bombers attacked subway stations in central Moscow during rush hour, killing nearly 40 people. Source:

<http://edition.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/europe/01/29/russia.airport.bombing/?hpt=T2>

Package explodes in Swedish mail center. A package exploded at a mail facility in Borlange, Sweden, February 2 injuring several people, Swedish security officials said. The Swedish Security Services was

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investigating the incident, which officials said caused minimal damage, The Local newspaper in Stockholm reported. —We don't yet know what type of explosion it is. I can say that damages are minimal but there is some spread of a white powder and several people have had to be sanitized, a spokesperson with the Dalarna County police department said. Smoke and the white powder filled the air in the facility, the spokesperson said. Although several people were treated for injuries at the scene, no one was taken to a hospital. Police said they have not determined the package's destination. Source: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2011/02/02/Package-explodes-in-Swedish-mail-center/UPI-62411296655356/

U.K. prosecutors tie BA employee to Awlaki. A U.S.-born radical cleric directed a U.K.-based employee of British Airways PLC to cause —chaos by attacking the airline's computer systems and to help ship a —package on board a U.S.-bound plane, prosecutors alleged in a London court February 1. The Bangladeshi man is charged with four counts of engaging in conduct in preparation of terrorist acts related to his work at BA and his contact with the radical cleric. The case is a rare instance in which a major terrorist group, the radical cleric's al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, allegedly pierced post-9/11 security measures to place someone inside a major airline. Source: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703445904576118233375420762.html?mod=google_news_wsj

Travel Alert: United Kingdom and Gibraltar (England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland). The Department of State has issued this Travel Alert to inform U.S. citizens traveling to or resident in the United Kingdom (UK) of the continuing high level of terrorist threat, including the potential for terrorists to attack public transportation systems, aviation and other travel infrastructure in the UK. U.S. citizens are reminded to maintain a high level of vigilance and to take appropriate steps to increase their security awareness. This Travel Alert expires on April 30, 2011. In the past several years, extremists have targeted and attacked subway and rail systems, as well as the aviation sector in cities such as London, Madrid, Glasgow, and most recently, Moscow, demonstrating that terrorists continue to take an active interest in targeting these transport sectors across a variety of European cities. Source: http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/pa/pa_2561.html

Cairo airport a scene of chaos as foreigners flee. Cairo's international airport was a scene of chaos and confusion January 31 as thousands of foreigners sought to flee the unrest in Egypt and countries around the world scrambled to send in planes to fly their citizens out. Nerves frayed, shouting matches erupted and some passengers even had a fistfight as thousands crammed into Cairo airport's new Terminal 3 seeking a flight home. The airport's departures board stopped announcing flight times in an attempt to reduce tensions — but the move backfired, fueling anger over canceled or delayed flights. Making matters worse, check-in counters were poorly staffed because many EgyptAir employees were to get to work due to a 3 p.m.-to-8 a.m. curfew, and traffic breakdowns across the Egyptian capital. A U.S. military plane landed at Larnaca Airport in Cyprus, Greece, January 31, ferrying 42 U.S. Embassy officials and their dependents from Egypt. The U.S. Embassy in Nicosia said at least one more plane was expected January 31 with about 180 people — most of them U.S. citizens. U.S. officials have said it will take several flights over the coming days to fly out the thousands of Americans who want to leave Egypt. Source: http://www.salon.com/news/egyptian_protests/?story=/news/feature/2011/01/31/egypt_airport_evacuations_foreigners

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BANKING AND FINANCE INDUSTRY

SEC rules for security swap execution facilities. The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) voted unanimously February 2 to propose rules defining security-based swap execution facilities (SEFs) and establishing their registration requirements, as well as their duties and core principles. The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act authorized the SEC to implement a regulatory framework for security-based swaps, which currently trade exclusively in the over-the-counter markets with little transparency or oversight. The Dodd-Frank Act sought to move the trading of security-based swaps onto regulated trading markets, and therefore created security-based SEFs as a new category of market intended to provide more transparency and reduce systemic risk. "Our objective here is to provide a framework that allows the security-based swap market to continue to develop in a more transparent, efficient, and competitive manner," the SEC Chairman said. "This is an important and complex undertaking that adds a significant new component to the regulatory framework for over-the-counter derivatives." Source:

<http://www.futuresmag.com/News/2011/2/Pages/SEC-rules-for-securitybased-swap-execution-facilities.aspx>

Next-generation banking malware emerges after Zeus. The rumored combination of two pieces of advanced online banking malware appears to be fully underway after several months of speculation. What appears to be a beta version of a piece of malware that has bits of both Zeus and SpyEye is now in circulation, albeit among just a few people, said the CTO and cofounder of Seculert. Seculert has published screen shots of the new malware, which has two versions of a control panel used for managing infected computers. One of those control panels resembles one in Zeus, and the other resembles that in SpyEye. Both of the control panels are connected to the same back-end command-and-control server, he said. Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9207940/Next_generation_banking_malware_emerges_after_Zeus

Internationalized PayPal phishing attacks spotted in the wild. Security researchers from Avira have spotted an e-mail PayPal phishing attack currently hitting people's inboxes which has both an English and a French version. A data security expert at Avira points out that the two e-mails are almost identical, except for the language, even down to the Reference Number mentioned in the text. The only other difference is that the English version advertises a link to the phishing page, while the French variant has a button. The lure is a common one and tries to scare users into believing their accounts have been limited due to unusual credit card activity. To increase the credibility of the e-mail, the phishers included legitimate anti-phishing advices for users. Another noteworthy aspect of this attack is that the message is very well formulated compared to the majority of phishing scams.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Internationalized-PayPal-Phishing-Attacks-Spotted-in-the-Wild-181983.shtml>

Wall Street execs on new terror threat info. Security officials are warning the leaders of major Wall Street banks that al Qaeda terrorists in Yemen may be trying to plan attacks against those financial institutions or their leading executives. Intelligence officials stress the threats are general in nature and there is "no indication of a targeted assassination plot" against any Wall Street executive. But NBCNewYork.com has learned officials fear the names of some top banking executives have been discussed by terror operatives overseas. Intelligence analysts added they have a general but growing

concern that operatives in Yemen may again try to send package bombs or biological or chemical agents through the mail to Wall Street bankers. In recent weeks, the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force and NYPD officials have been briefing bank executives and their security departments on the nature of the threat information. Much of it gleaned from al Qaeda writings like 'Inspire' magazine that recently warned of attacks targeting financial institutions. The latest "Inspire" issue also made reference to trying to use Anthrax in an attack, officials said. NBC terror consultants also point to the web writings of an al Qaeda blogger who recently wrote, "Rush my Muslim brothers to targeting financial sites and the program sites of financial institutions, stock markets and money markets." Banks like Goldman Sachs, Citibank, JP Morgan Chase, Barclays and others have received updated security briefings from the FBI's JTTF, security officials told NBCNewYork. Source:

<http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local-beat/Exclusive-Wall-Street-Execs-On-New-Terror-Threat-Info-114985979.html>

Stock exchanges in the UK and US come under advanced and persistent attack. The British and United States stock exchanges have reportedly enlisted the help of the security services after finding out they were the victims of cyber attacks. According to media reports, the London Stock Exchange (LSE) is investigating a terrorist cyber attack on its headquarters last year, while US officials have traced an attack on one of its exchanges to Russia. A report from The Times said that it had been told by 'well-placed intelligence sources' that the London Stock Exchange was trying to find the source of the attack, while a cyber security expert is reported as saying that the threat is 'advanced and persistent'. The Associated Press said that officials suspect the attacks were designed to spread panic among markets and destabilize western financial institutions. Source:

<http://www.scmagazineuk.com/stock-exchanges-in-the-uk-and-us-come-under-advanced-and-persistent-attack/article/195398/>

ATM skimmers don't even have to be on the ATM. Careful ATM users know enough to give a hasty visual check to the machine before using it and to hide the keyboard while entering their PIN. Unfortunately, sometimes even that is not enough to stop fraudsters. A security analyst has discovered a type of attack that can not be detected by users because there's nothing off on the machine or close enough to it to make them suspicious. The analyst said the new tactic is employed to steal data from users who prefer to use ATMs located in the antechamber of a bank or building lobby. Access to these machines is usually controlled by a key card lock that allows customers to enter only after they have swiped their ATM card. The analyst said crooks have devised a way to add a skimmer to these locks, so they record card information. When customers finally access the ATM, those of them who do not take particular care to hide the keyboard from view with the palm of their hand or another object, have their PINs stolen through the use of a zoom-in camera hiding behind a mirror located on the wall above the ATM — which they assume is there to allow them to see if someone is standing behind them. Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=10513>

CHEMICAL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECTOR

IAEA chief warns of terrorist access to nuclear material. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief on January 27 said his organization receives new information nearly every other day regarding smuggling of nuclear and radioactive materials, Asian News International reported. The U.N. nuclear watchdog director general attended the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, where he warned that Iran and North Korea should not be the sole focus of nuclear proliferation

fears, according to Fox News. "Another risk is nuclear material falling into the hands of terrorists," the IAEA chief said. "Some people do not believe this is a real risk. But the IAEA has a database and, on average, every two days we receive information about the illicit trafficking of nuclear materials or radioactive materials and this may only be the tip of the iceberg." The IAEA head did not single out any geographical area as a locus point for nuclear trafficking but said extremists would seek to acquire atomic materials wherever security is the weakest. Source:

http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20110131_1572.php

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

(New York) Emergency preparation upgrades needed in Times Square. The May 1, 2010 attempted car bombing in Times Square, New York City has brought to light concerns that existing emergency preparedness and evacuation plans and procedures present a workplace safety hazard and are in need careful reexamination, according to a new report from the New York state assembly. The report, titled Emergency Preparedness in New York City's Theater District and its Impact on Workplace Safety, contains a number of recommendations on topics, including the application and enforcement of existing emergency preparedness rules and regulations under the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act and the New York City Fire Code; the development of new fire code provisions related to emergency preparedness in places of public assembly, including theaters; the need for upgraded life safety training conducted by theater owners and/or production companies; and improved communication between the city and theaters, and within theaters among theater owners and production companies during an emergency. Source:

<http://www.hstoday.us/industry-news/general/single-article/emergency-preparation-upgrades-needed-in-times-square/b2040fcde6a0d4fb82f8e656b8dacac2.html>

Germany reduces terror security measures. Germany's top security official February 1 said he will reduce the number of police officers patrolling railway stations and other public places since a terrorism warning last year, but made clear that a threat to the country still remains. Germany is a target for Islamic extremists, but the incidents that prompted the heightened security have been addressed, the interior minister said. Those included an unsuccessful attempt by al-Qaida's Yemeni offshoot to blow up two cargo planes over the United States, and a report that Islamic extremists were planning an attack within Germany by the end of November, he said. "We will gradually reduce the visible security measures, but I can't see an 'all clear' in the foreseeable future," he said. Germany has no color-coded or numbered system for measuring security levels, as Britain and France do. It tends to be far more cautious in publicly discussing the degrees of threat, saying it could endanger efforts to prevent an attack. Though Germany has escaped any major terrorist attacks like the Madrid train bombings of 2004 and the London transit attacks of 2005, at least two major plots have been thwarted or failed before they could be carried out. Source:

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=133398423>

(Michigan) Man arrested with explosives at Michigan mosque. A 63-year-old Southern California man who was traveling with explosives in his vehicle with the intention of blowing up one of the nation's largest mosques where mourners had gathered for a funeral was arrested in the Detroit suburb of Dearborn, Michigan, authorities said January 30. Dearborn police said the man was arraigned January 26 on one count of making a false report or threat of terrorism, and one count of possessing explosives with an unlawful intent. He had a large but undisclosed quantity of class-C

fireworks including M-80s, which are outlawed in Michigan, a police chief said. He was arrested January 24 without incident in the parking lot of Islamic Center of America, while a large group was gathered inside. He said police received a 911 call from a resident. The police chief said authorities believe he was acting alone but still take him “very seriously.” He said the suspect has “a long history of anti-government activities.” The police chief said he called the mosque leader January 25 to let him know of the arrest, and later met with mosque board members. He said members shared concerns about copycat crimes if the arrest was publicized. The suspect remained jailed January 30 on a \$500,000 bond. A preliminary examination is scheduled for February 4. Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iOXULcE-kwqDvZ3kAHtVJhIRgLtA?docId=949fec1a2202400bb04855d3b943d1ca>

COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

Companies rally against DHS endorsement of granting spectrum to first responders. A coalition of companies protested February 1 the Presidential Administration’s move to grant directly a segment of radio spectrum to first responders, criticizing the move to deny them the opportunity to bid on those wavelengths. Under a plan floated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the federal government would auction off the 700 MHz spectrum to commercial companies, using the profits to build out first responder capabilities nationally. The commercial companies could use the spectrum for commercial purposes, selling the airwaves to the private sector, but must grant first responders priority access under the proposal. Source: <http://www.hstoday.us/industry-news/general/single-article/companies-rally-against-dhs-endorsement-of-granting-spectrum-to-first-responders/163529f97aceabab15364c7d9b87aa92.html>

Data theft vulnerability in Android 2.3 not plugged. A security vulnerability in the Android browser that could be exploited to steal data, and was disclosed back in November 2010, is still exploitable in the latest version of the smartphone operating system (version 2.3, “Gingerbread”). A security researcher from the University of North Carolina (UNC) reports that it is possible to bypass the patch that was supposed to fix the vulnerability. He said he informed the Android Security Team of the problem January 26, and provided them with exploit code tested on a Nexus S. He stressed that it is not a root exploit. It runs within the Android sandbox and consequently only has access to some data, such as that stored on the SD card. No exploit for the vulnerability has been observed in the wild. Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Data-theft-vulnerability-in-Android-2-3-not-plugged-1180183.html>

CRITICAL MANUFACTURING

Sunbeam Products Inc. recalls convertible irons due to fire hazard. Sunbeam Products Inc. of Boca Raton, Florida, issued a recall February 3 of about 5,700 Convertible Clothes Irons. The iron can overheat and cause a fire because of a wiring issue, posing a risk of burn injury to consumers. Sunbeam has received 17 reports of irons overheating and 3 reports of irons catching on fire. No injuries have been reported. The irons were sold at Bed Bath & Beyond stores nationwide from June 2010 to November 2010. Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml11/11118.html>

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Storm forces auto factories to close, shifts to be canceled. The massive snowstorm that hit the Midwest caused GM, Ford, and Chrysler to close plants or cancel shifts at more than 30 plants across the Midwest February 2. Automakers closed plants and cut production as employees struggled to get to work and suppliers had problems delivering parts. Late February 2, automakers were still monitoring the weather and parts deliveries. However, they were planning to operate most plants normally February 3. Chrysler canceled its first shift at 13 plants in the Midwest and Ontario before resuming production the afternoon of February 2. GM, meanwhile, closed or canceled shifts at 11 plants. Ford canceled shifts at nine plants. Chrysler said it would resume production at all plants February 3. Source:

<http://www.freep.com/article/20110203/BUSINESS01/102030429/0/BUSINESS06/Storm-forces-auto-factories-close-shifts-canceled?odyssey=nav|head>

Egypt's march of millions closes GM plant. GM has announced February 1 that it will halt its production in Egypt after a week of public unrest in the country. As Egypt braces for what is generally called the "march of millions," a huge anti-presidential rally currently in progress in Cairo, the American auto maker stated its decision to stop production at its plant near the capital. A GM team is on site, the car maker said, and is assessing when to restart operations. "All of our employees in Egypt as well as our plant property is safe and secure," GM said following a query from just-auto.com. "Our local team in Cairo is assessing the situation and will decide to commence normal operations once the conditions permit. We are currently not building vehicles." Source:

<http://www.autoevolution.com/news/egypt-s-march-of-millions-closes-gm-plant-30540.html>

DEFENSE/ INDUSTRY BASE SECTOR

(Massachusetts) Woman sentenced for U.S. military sales to China. A woman who managed a Massachusetts electronics company was sentenced January 8 to 3 years in prison for conspiring over 10 years to export U.S. military equipment to China, U.S. authorities said. The woman, 46, of Belmont, Massachusetts, was convicted in 2010 of illegally exporting various goods to China, including parts on the U.S. munitions list and export-restricted technology and electronics, and for filing false shipping documents with the U.S. Department of Commerce. The Waltham, Massachusetts company she managed, Chitron Electronics Inc., known as Chitron-US, was fined \$15.5 million. A Chinese national, Chitron's owner and the woman's ex-husband, was sentenced January 26 to 97 months in prison for his role in the export conspiracy. The defendants' enterprise involved the use of Chitron-US as a front company for its parent, Chitron Electronics Co. Ltd., headquartered in Shenzhen, China, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) said. The woman procured export-restricted equipment from U.S. suppliers and exported them to China through Hong Kong. The equipment is used in electronic warfare, military radar, fire control, military guidance and control equipment, missile systems, and satellite communications, the DOJ said. Chitron marketed electronics to Chinese military factories and military research institutes. Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/01/28/china-chitron-sentencing-idUSN2823732820110128>

EMERGENCY SERVICES

(Washington) Prison guard killed in chapel. A corrections officer who had raised concerns about being the only guard in the chapel of a Washington state prison was strangled there January 29, and

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an inmate serving a life sentence is the primary suspect, authorities said January 30. The 34-year-old woman was found dead in the chapel at Monroe Correctional Complex about 30 miles northeast of Seattle, a department of corrections spokesman said. She had been strangled with a microphone cord. The male inmate, whose identity has not been released by authorities, was reported missing during a routine count at 9:14 p.m. He was found 3 minutes later in the chapel lobby and told officers he had planned to escape. "He is our primary suspect," a Monroe police spokeswoman said. The suspect is serving a life sentence without parole after being convicted of first-degree rape and kidnapping in 1997. He was being housed in a medium-security unit at the Monroe complex, which has five units with varying security levels. Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/11031/1121832-84.stm>

ENERGY

Cold weather hits US natgas output, processing plants. Frigid weather across the U.S. Southwest knocked out natural gas production equivalent to nearly 5 percent of daily nationwide demand as wells froze and the cold caused problems for processing plants. At least one storage operator curbed additional draws from storage as utilities grabbed for replacement supplies to meet high heating and power demand as the unusually cold weather forced shut ins across Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico. Bentek Energy estimated 2.7 billion cubic feet per day (bcfd) of natural gas output remained offline. Spectra Energy limited additional gas withdrawals above contracted volumes from its Moss Bluff and Egan storage facilities in East Texas and southern Louisiana. At least 1.5 bcfd of production was offline in the East Texas, Fort Worth and Texas Gulf Coast basins, Bentek estimates, with at least 900 million cfd offline in the Anadarko Basin, which lays partly in Texas and Oklahoma. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/02/03/gas-shutins-cold-idUSN0317361420110203>

(California) US senators renew call for more pipeline inspectors, shutoff valves. Two of California's U.S. senators have renewed legislative efforts to tighten the U.S. pipeline inspection regime in response to the September 2010 fatal Pacific Gas and Electric explosion. The two congressmen have reintroduced the —Strengthening Pipeline Safety and Enforcement Act, which matches legislation the pair introduced in 2010, except for a new section ordering pipeline operators to comply with National Transportation Safety Board recommendations issued in January 2011. The new provision would require pipeline operators to establish records of all pipe components to verify that the —maximum allowable operating pressure is calibrated for the weakest section. Pipelines with incomplete records must be pressure-tested or replaced and must operate at reduced pressure until testing is completed, the bill says. The bill, introduced January 31, proposes doubling the inspector staff at the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, requiring automatic shutoff valves, mandating —smart pig devices and prohibiting high-pressure lines from operating if they do not use up-to-date inspection technology. Source: <http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/NaturalGas/6794992>

Crude prices lose momentum as Suez worries ease. Crude oil prices lost momentum February 1 as fears over oil supply disruptions at the Suez Canal eased, but attention remained fixed on events in Egypt, where massive antigovernment protests continued for another day. Despite port closures in Egypt, the Suez Canal, a key energy transit point, remained open to shipping February 1. Although massive protests continued to take place throughout the country, significant disruptions to oil flows

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appear to be looking less likely, analysts said. “There are still protests going on in Egypt, but the shipping through the canal appears to be continuing normally” said an energy analyst. Egypt is not a major oil supplier, but the Suez Canal and the nearby Sumed pipeline are key chokepoints for global oil supplies. In addition, fears persist that the antigovernment protests could spread to major oil producing countries elsewhere in the region. However, even if oil flows through the Suez were disrupted, shippers could easily re-route supplies bound for Europe around southern Africa “without too much of a headache,” analysts at JBC Energy said in a research report. Moreover, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries has indicated it would raise production in the event of a supply disruption. Source: <http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20110201-710344.html>

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Technology tracks produce from growth to delivery. The recent federal food safety bill passed by Congress has set off a race among companies to provide technology to track individual items of produce from the field to the supermarket shelf. The new law contains a provision, dubbed “one step forward, one step back,” that requires every part of the complex U.S. food supply chain to be able to quickly trace where they received a food item from and where they sent it to. This provision is designed to aid in the speedy identification and recall of contaminated food items that have caused deadly food-borne outbreaks. A recently released CDC study showed roughly 3,000 people per year die from food-borne illnesses, while one in six Americans get sick from food every year. The increased call for greater accountability comes on the heels of a large national outbreak of salmonella food poisoning in 2008 that affected more than 1,300 people in more than 40 states and took months to identify. Source: <http://homelandsecuritynewswire.com/technology-tracks-produce-growth-delivery>

Sugar rises to 30-year high as storm heads for Australian crop. Sugar rose to a 30-year high in New York and reached the highest price since 1989 in London on speculation Cyclone Yasi will damage the crop in Australia, the world’s third-largest exporter. Sugar-industry losses from Yasi may start at \$506 million including crop losses and damage to sheds and machinery, growers group Canegrowers said February 2. Sugar gained 18 percent in the past year in New York on crop damage in Brazil, Pakistan, and parts of Europe. The cyclone is due to make landfall in Australia’s Queensland state February 2. It would be the first category 5 cyclone to hit the state since 1918. Queensland already suffered floods caused by almost two months of torrential rains. Australia is expected to produce 4.8 million tons of sugar in the 2010-11 season, the U.S. Department of Agriculture forecast in November. Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-02-02/sugar-rises-to-30-year-high-on-speculation-storm-to-damage-australian-crop.html>

U.S. cattle supply lowest in 60 years. The United States’ calf crop has been depleted to its lowest level in 60 years, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and it could take several years to replenish supply. Industry experts say high market prices for cattle have persuaded many ranchers to sell rather than maintain heifers for breeding. The 2010 calf crop was estimated at 35.7 million head, 99 percent of 2009 and the smallest since 1950. —Cattle are bringing more money on the market than they ever have before. It has created an incentive to sell, said a spokesman for the state Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry. —The good news is they [ranchers] are getting more money for their cattle today. But tomorrow, they won’t have any to sell. An Oklahoma State University agricultural economics professor said U.S. cattle ranchers have been liquidating since

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about 2006 and are at a point where they critically need to rebuild inventories. Source:

<http://newsok.com/cattle-supply-hits-new-low/article/3537417>

(Georgia) Publix ice cream recall. The Georgia Department of Agriculture has issued a recall for Publix brand ice cream because of unlisted almonds that could cause a fatal reaction for people allergic to almonds. "The product lot code on the bottom of the carton is 'Sep 12 2011 B7 PLT 12-444,'" the Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported. "The product is packaged with a Light Tiramisu Ice Cream carton and an Almond Fudge Light Ice Cream lid." According to Georgia's agriculture commissioner, the recall affects Publix stores in Georgia and four other states: Alabama, Florida, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Source: http://www.nationalledger.com/lifestyle/article_272637583.shtml

(California) Cilantro recalled due to Salmonella. Sabor Farms, a Salinas, California, company, is recalling fresh cilantro after Salmonella was detected during a USDA Microbiology Data Program test. The company said the cilantro was sold in California and "several other states" from January 14-28 under the labels Nature's Reward, Ocean Mist, Tanimura & Antle, and Queen Victoria. Consumers should note that the cilantro bunches do not contain identifying lot codes. Sabor Farms has contacted the four companies that received potentially affected lots of cilantro and confirmed that no product remains in their inventories. No illnesses have been reported. Source:

<http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/02/california-cilantro-recalled-over-salmonella-fears/>

DDoS bot infests food processing firms. A new family of malware agents is attacking the Web sites of firms involved in the industrial food processing industry. Variants of the Darkshell botnet agent, circulating in China, turn infected Windows machines into attack drones. Infected machines regularly phone in to command and control nodes for instructions, periodically receiving instructions on sites to inundate with junk traffic. Arbor Networks, which has been tracking the activities of the cybercrime networks for the last three months, reports that Darkshell botnets have launched DDoS attacks against 97 unique victims, mostly in China (65) and the United States (23). Victims have included online merchants of baby products and jewelry as well as video game related sites. However, a big percentage of targets narrowly focused on the websites of small manufacturers of industrial food processing equipment and machinery. The attacks seem to focus on three or four URLs on a targeted website that refer to specific products. Darkshell is not technically sophisticated, but it stands out from the rogue's gallery of botnet agents because of its particular (unusual) focus in attacking websites of industrial food processing firms, a sign of the increased diversification and specialization of the underground economy. Source:

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/02/01/ddos_bot_targets_industrial_control_firms/

(Wisconsin) Moldy sweet potatoes believed to be the killer of 200 steers. Veterinary scientists at the University of Wisconsin-Madison said they believe moldy sweet potatoes are to blame for the death hundreds of steers on a Portage County farm in Wisconsin. An associate director of the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory said scientists analyzed samples from two steers that died on a Town of Stockton farm. They found there were no viral pathogens. However, scientists discovered changes in tissue they believe are comparable with mold toxicity syndrome. Tests on feed samples also revealed the presence of ipomeanol, a mycotoxin found in moldy sweet potatoes. Previously, a spokesperson with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer reported the steers were killed by pneumonia. Testing ruled out a bovine virus that causes respiratory and reproductive problems in cows. Source: <http://www.waow.com/Global/story.asp?S=13927563>

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(Arizona) Ranchers' plan to secure border introduced as bill in state legislature. An Arizona cattle rancher is spearheading a new plan to secure the border and put out the word about border risks. Everyday, he said, he finds cut fences — a sign there have been people on his land. Every morning, when he wakes up, he has to check for people. An Arizona state senator has asked ranchers to testify about what is happening in that area since another rancher was killed in March 2010. An Arizona Cattle Growers' Association group, the cattle rancher, and others have put together an 18-point plan, which has been reworked in the format of a bill. The plan addresses how the border should be secured. The ranchers want 3,000 National Guard troops, increased border patrol, infrastructure and technology in the Tucson-border area. They are also calling for Forward Operating Bases. The idea is to put more Border Patrol agents closer to the border in rural areas. The state senator will introduce the bill the week of January 31. Source: <http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/state/ranchers'-plan-to-secure-border-introduced-as-bill-in-state-legislature>

U.S. farmers get approval to plant GMO alfalfa. The United States said January 27 farmers could proceed with planting genetically altered alfalfa without any of the restrictions opponents said are crucial to protect organic and conventional farm fields from contamination. The decision, closely watched by supporters and protesters around the world for its potential implications on biotech crop regulation, was seen as a boon to biotech crop developers and comes as research into additional biotech crops accelerates. But opponents of biotech crops were disappointed. The U.S. Department of Agriculture said the decision, made by its Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, was made after analysis of various economic and environmental factors, and allows GMO farmers to get their crop in the ground this spring. Alfalfa is the fourth-largest U.S. field crop grown, worth roughly \$8 billion to \$10 billion and grown on about 20 million acres as food for dairy cattle and other livestock. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/01/28/us-gmo-alfalfa-usda-idUSTRE70R3UP20110128>

GOVERNMENT SECTOR (INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES)

(California) Principal shot, killed at California elementary school. A school janitor was arrested February 2 in the killing of a Northern California elementary school principal. No children were hurt in the late-morning shooting in the office at Louisiana Schnell Elementary School in Placerville, but one student may have witnessed the shooting, the police chief said. Authorities arrested the 44-year-old janitor at his home about an hour after launching a manhunt. Investigators were trying to determine a motive for the shooting about 50 miles east of Sacramento. The 50-year-old victim died at Marshall Medical Center. Police do not believe the janitor had a criminal history. Classes were canceled at all district schools February 3. Source: <http://www.dailyrecord.com/article/20110202/NJNEWS18/110202064/Principal-shot-killed-California-elementary-school?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

(Texas) Senate report on shooting critical of FBI, Army. A Senate report on the shooting on the Fort Hood military base near Killeen, Texas, was sharply critical of the FBI and its failure to adequately share information with the military about the alleged shooter's extremist views. It said the Pentagon failed to make necessary changes to identify violent Islamic extremism as a danger and discharge service members who express those views. According to portions of the report obtained by the

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Associated Press, military supervisors had the authority to discipline or discharge the psychiatrist accused of killing 13 people and wounding more than 30 in the shootings. The FBI has said a special task force did not refer early information about the man to superiors because it concluded he was not linked to terrorism. Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iVRUAnvU-VzZvihgD7bpMfXCeJPQ?docId=32f6040d3fb54c469e37eacae0d80a89>

(Florida; Massachusetts) Man arrested in threat made against Stuart's Rep. William Snyder shortly after Arizona shootings. A self-described —political activist from Massachusetts was arrested January 31 and charged with sending a threatening e-mail to a Florida Representative an hour after the Arizona shooting that killed six and critically injured U.S. Representative. The unsigned e-mail, sent to the Florida Representatives state House of Representatives address January 8 told the legislator to —stop that ridiculous law if you value your and your familie's lives. The Representative has proposed a bill cracking down on illegal immigration for Florida in a manner similar to what Arizona has done. The Representative said February 1 he reported the e-mail to the Martin County Sheriff's Office and state Capitol security officials in Tallahassee. According to TCPalm.com and other published reports, the Martin County Sheriff's Office said February 1 that the 47-year-old suspect from Northampton, Massachusetts, used a public access wireless connection at a Starbucks a few blocks from his home to send the e-mail. The suspect was being held in a Massachusetts jail pending his transfer to face charges in Martin County. He is under a \$450,000 bail on charges of corruption by threat and sending a written threat to kill or do bodily harm. The charges are second- and third-degree felonies. Source: <http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/crime/man-arrested-in-threat-made-against-stuarts-rep-1226131.html>

U.S. consulate in Caracas closed on Monday after receiving threats. The U.S. consulate in Venezuela did not open January 31 allegedly because of threats of an attack. The embassy press secretary confirmed the report that appeared February 1 in several Venezuela newspapers. He said threats had been received, and embassy officials had contacted Venezuelan authorities. The press secretary declared that the Venezuelan authorities had replied that they would be taking —appropriate measures. The Embassy Web site informed that all interviews and other appointments for January 31 would be rescheduled. Source: <http://www.vheadline.com/readnews.asp?id=100732>

(Michigan) Northern Michigan University closed due to threat. Northern Michigan University and Marquette's public schools have closed because of a threat to the university. A spokeswoman said February 2 that an online threat was made to harm students, faculty, staff, and administrators at Northern Michigan. The spokeswoman said an emergency notice was transmitted on laptop computers that were provided to all 9,400 students. Text messages were sent on cell phones. It is uncertain whether the closure will extend beyond February 2. The spokeswoman said the message did not mention the public schools. But the interim superintendent said they also were closed as a precaution. Marquette Senior High School is next door to the university campus. The public schools have 3,000 students. Source: <http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20110202/NEWS02/302020015/-1/NEWSHOME/Northern-Michigan-University-closed-due-to-threat>

US warns of terrorist threat in Azerbaijan. The State Department is warning Americans of a terrorist threat to Western targets in Azerbaijan and urging U.S. citizens to be vigilant in the oil-rich former

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Soviet republic on the Caspian Sea. In a security alert issued January 29, the U.S. Embassy in Baku said there was a “potential for attacks in Azerbaijan, including against American interests.” It said the warning was “based on terrorist threat information.” It added that that U.S. citizens in Azerbaijan “should remain vigilant, particularly in public places associated with the Western community.” The alert did not elaborate on the nature of the threat or who might be behind it. Source:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20110129/ap_on_re_us/us_us_azerbaijan_threat

(Wisconsin) Bomb threat forces Lake Geneva schools to close. A high school, middle school, and three elementary schools were shut down January 31 in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin after school officials got an e-mail chain claiming there were bombs in several schools. The Lake Geneva School District has received bomb threats before, but said this threat had more specifics. School officials decided to have class February 1. Source: <http://www.fox6now.com/news/witi-20110131-lake-geneva,0,1799176.story>

(Florida) Suspicious device evacuates Volusia County Administration Center in Daytona Beach. Authorities said a possible explosive was found outside the Volusia County Administration Center in Daytona Beach, Florida February 1 around 7:55 a.m. Daytona Beach police said the device was found near a trash can outside the building, on North Beach Street. The building was evacuated shortly after 8 a.m. Everyone was allowed back inside before 10:30 a.m. Investigators said the person who discovered the object said it was a rectangular device wrapped in tin foil, with wires attached to it. The Volusia County Sheriff’s Office bomb squad will take the device to an open field to detonate it. Source: <http://www.cfnews13.com/article/news/2011/february/203071/>

US orders evacuation of non-emergency US government personnel from Egypt. The U.S. State Department said it has ordered all non-emergency U.S. government personnel and their families to leave Egypt. The Department said February 1 that it will continue to assist American citizens seeking to leave the country. The Cairo airport is open and operating but the department warned that flights may be disrupted due to protests against the Egyptian government. Source: <http://timesfreepress.com/news/2011/feb/01/us-orders-evacuation-non-emergency-us-government-p/>

(Pennsylvania) Bomb threat phoned to Waynesboro Area School District. A district-wide bomb threat made in a telephone call January 27 led to the evacuation and search of all six schools January 28 in the Waynesboro Area School District in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania. The voicemail recording was received January 28 when staff arrived at the Clayton Avenue administration building, the superintendent said. The district followed its emergency policy and first contacted the Waynesboro Police Department, he said. Although police ruled the threat was not believable, children were evacuated from each school. Schools were cleared like a typical fire drill, then police and school district personnel searched them. Nothing suspicious was found. The middle and high schools were evacuated first, while the four elementary schools were staggered afterward. Parents of students in the school district were notified by automated message January 28, after school was over for the day. Source: <http://www.therecordherald.com/features/x286172895/Bomb-threat-phoned-to-Waynesboro-Area-School-District>

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

DDoS attacks made worse by firewalls, report finds. The rising tide of distributed denial of service attacks (DDoS) is being made much worse by a tendency to mis-deploy firewalls and intrusion prevention systems in front of servers, a report by Arbor Networks has found. The company surveyed 111 global service providers across fixed and mobile sectors for its 2010 Infrastructure Security Report and uncovered a huge jump in DDoS attack size during the year. Maximum attack sizes reached 100Gbit/s for the first time, double that for 2009, and 10 times the peak size seen as recently as 2005, increasingly in the form application attacks rather than simple packet flooding. Attack frequency also appears to be increasing, with 25 percent of respondents seeing 10 or more DDoS attacks per month, and 69 percent experiencing at least 1. But according to Arbor, service providers and corporate could significantly reduce their DDoS vulnerability by designing their security infrastructure to better locate policy-based security devices such as firewalls. During 2010, nearly half of all respondents had experienced a failure of their firewall or IPS due to DDoS, something that could have been avoided in many cases using better router security configuration. Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9207623/DDoS_attacks_made_worse_by_firewalls_report_finds

New malware strains wreaking havoc on Facebook. PandaLabs announced the discovery of security exploits via popular social media sites Facebook and Twitter. In the last several days, two new malware strains have been wreaking havoc on Facebook users. The first, Asprox.N, is a trojan delivered via e-mail informing users their Facebook account is being used to distribute spam and that, for security reasons, the login credentials have been changed. The second new malware strain, Lolbot.Q, is distributed across instant messaging applications such as AIM or Yahoo!, with a message displaying a malicious link. Clicking the link downloads a worm designed to hijack Facebook accounts, blocking users' access while informing that the account has been suspended. Source:

http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1609

Scammers spread account closure FUD on Facebook. Facebook users are warned that claims of accounts being closed en masse are scams that trick them into installing rogue apps and participating in surveys. According to antivirus vendor Sophos, the rogue messages sent from the accounts of people who fell for these scams informs users that unless users update, their accounts will be shut down. The message contains a link that takes users to a rogue app called "Update your Acc Urgent" which asks for permission to post on users' walls. If the app is installed, users will unknowingly start spamming their friends and will be directed to a page asking them to verify their identity by filling out a survey. In the background, the page displays a fake message allegedly from Facebook's founder and CEO, which announces the introduction of an "active account verification process" due to the overpopulation of the website. Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Scammers-Spread-Account-Closure-FUD-on-Facebook-181826.shtml>

Vulnerabilities in Cisco WebEx conferencing applications. Core Security Technologies disclosed stack overflow vulnerabilities affecting the Cisco WebEx applications used to conduct Web-based video conferencing. They identified vulnerabilities that can compromise end-user machines and can cause the computers to crash. They discovered two separate vulnerabilities, each affecting a separate Cisco WebEx application. First, the research team manipulated a file created by the Cisco WebEx recorder

(carrying the .WRF extension) and played by the WebEx player. A portion of the new file's execution pointed to a user call instruction and allowed a hacker to execute other functions on the machine. Second, the research team made a slight change to the XML code within a file that governs polling functionality within Cisco WebEx Meeting Center. The resulting code, when published as a poll during a presentation, crashed the machine and ultimately affected other machines connected to the WebEx meeting, causing the other participants' machines to crash. Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=10515>

AASIP gives IPv6 as standard. Internet service provider (ISP) Andres and Arnold (AAISP) has confirmed it will be offering IPv6 capabilities as standard to customers. The ISP has been offering IPv6 as an opt-in choice for more than 8 years but, in light of the news IPv4 addresses are soon to run out, it has decided to bundle in IPv6 ability at no extra cost. "With the announcement that the final blocks of IPv4 address space have been allocated, it is clear that all ISPs, business and home users alike have to get themselves IPv6 ready," the company said. Although it will be automatic for new customers, existing ones need to ask AAISP's support to turn on the capability. Business customers should already have an IPv6 capable router but consumers may not. However, AAISP confirmed it hoped to have these available by the end of February. IPv4 is the Internet protocol numbering system in use since 1995, but a number of industry experts have warned it could be a matter of weeks before the allocation runs out. Back in November, one of the fathers of the Internet, called for government incentives to make people migrate to the new IPv6 system. Source: <http://www.itpro.co.uk/630505/aasip-gives-ipv6-as-standard>

Microsoft warns of new Windows zero-day bug. Microsoft warned Windows users January 28 of a new unpatched vulnerability attackers could exploit to steal information and dupe people into installing malware. In a security advisory, Microsoft said a bug in its MHTML (MIME HTML) protocol handler can be used by attackers to run malicious scripts within Internet Explorer. "The best way to think of this is to call it a variant of a cross-side scripting vulnerability," the director of security operations at nCircle Security said. Cross-site scripting bugs (XSS), can be used to insert malicious script into a Web page that can then take control of the session. "An attacker could pretend to be the user, and act if as he was you on that specific site," the security director said. "If you were at Gmail.com or Hotmail.com, he could send e-mail as you." Source: [http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9206999/Microsoft warns of new Windows zero day bug](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9206999/Microsoft_warns_of_new_Windows_zero_day_bug)

SourceForge resets all passwords following security breach. SourceForge, the world's largest open source software repository, has reset the password for all of its users following a successful attack against its infrastructure. The SourceForge team discovered the security breach January 27 when exploits were found uploaded on several servers. A preliminary investigation revealed the attack originated on the CVS hosting server, but the actual attack vector has not been identified yet. As a result of the incident, some functionality was suspended, including CVS hosting, Web-based source code browsing (ViewVC), the capability to upload new releases, and the Interactive Shell services. A subsequent update posted on the site's official blog did not reveal any more information except the team better understands what happened and how it can prevent it in the future. An e-mail went out to all users January 29, notifying them their passwords had been reset. SourceForge is operated by Geeknet, a firm that also owns and runs Slashdot, freshmeat, and ThinkGeek. Source:

<http://news.softpedia.com/news/Sourceforge-Servers-Compromise-Leads-to-Service-Downtime-181335.shtml>

NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS

(Kentucky) **Hand grenade found in Fleming woods.** Kentucky State Police (KSP) in Morehead were contacted January 24 by a forestry officer about a hand grenade that had been found by a hunter in a wooded area on Johnson Road in Fleming County. A KSP trooper, U.S. Forestry, and Rowan County fish and wildlife officers accompanied the hunter in the woods and found a small camp site with military gear and what appeared to be a live grenade. Investigators from KSP Special Operations Hazardous Materials and Explosives Division went to the site and rendered the hand grenade safe. Source: <http://theforeheadnews.com/local/x54036190/Hand-grenade-found-in-Fleming-woods>

POSTAL AND SHIPPING

(Florida) **Crude bomb threat found near bank.** A crude bomb threat scrawled on the back of a First National Bank and Trust deposit slip was found stuffed in a mailbox near a bank in Fort Walton Beach, Florida, February 3. A man found a note about 9:30 a.m. crumpled in the back of his mailbox next to the bank on Eglin Parkway, according to the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office. According to a sheriff's office report, the note read: "This is a bomb no police I have dented in my pocket if I hear sirens in 15 mins I w blow it." The man took the note to the bank, which then reported the bomb threat. Sheriff's deputies evacuated the building, but did not find any explosives. No suspects had been identified as of February 3, according to the report. Source: <http://www.nwfdailynews.com/news/beach-37272-threat-bomb.html>

(California) **Building evacuated after woman receives mortar in mail.** Several apartment buildings near the Hayes Valley neighborhood in San Francisco, California, were evacuated January 27 after a woman received an antiaircraft mortar projectile in the mail instead of the cooking mold she ordered online, a police sergeant said. Police responded to the 400 block of Linden Street at about 5:20 p.m. when a woman called and said she found an explosive in packaging that should have had a cooking mold she ordered from eBay, a police spokesman said. Arriving officers found a vintage 40-millimeter antiaircraft mortar projectile and evacuated the woman's building. The two buildings on either side of the woman's were also evacuated, and an ambulance was parked down the street as a precaution, a police spokesman said. Investigators determined the device was essentially harmless. "The projectile didn't have insides that would cause it to explode," the police spokesman said. The U.S. Postal Service was conducting its own investigation into the issue January 28. No arrests were made. No one was injured in the incident. Source: <http://www.ktvu.com/news/26658610/detail.html>

(Colorado) **Former CCA worker sentenced to six years for mail threats.** A former employee of Community College of Aurora in Aurora, Colorado, has been sentenced to serve 6 years in federal prison for sending white powder and threatening mail to governmental offices across the country. The suspect was sentenced in a Denver court the week of January 24 for sending threatening mail to the offices of Colorado elected officials, as well as to other offices, consulates and embassies nationwide. According to federal officials, agents tracked down the former CCA director of library services in February 2010 from information obtained on Web sites containing contact information for

Alabama congressional representatives. The suspect resigned his post as library director at CCA weeks after his arrest last year. Source:

http://www.aurorasentinel.com/hp_recent_headlines/article_e9051aac-2cfa-11e0-b6bb-001cc4c002e0.html

PUBLIC HEALTH

(Virginia) Health department investigating tuberculosis scare at local Walmart. The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has launched an investigation into a possible exposure of tuberculosis at a Henrico County, Virginia Walmart. A doctor with the VDH said January 31, that several weeks ago, the department received a report that an employee at the store had tuberculosis. The doctor said the VDH immediately contacted Walmart, and on January 28 investigators met with employees. Tuberculosis is transmitted through the air in confined areas, and the doctor said that only employees who might have come into contact with the worker in the break room or other confined space could have been exposed. All 400 workers attended information sessions regarding the incident. VDH said testing for tuberculosis began January 31. Source: <http://www.wtkr.com/news/wtvr-walmart-state-health-tuberculosis,0,1271058.story>

(Maryland) Airborne disease tests not a threat, says Army biodefense lab. Representatives of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID) in Fort Detrick, Maryland, last week sought to dispel fears over tests involving the release of lethal pathogens in aerosolized form, Frederick News-Post reported. The need for the tests was a major point of uncertainty for the Containment Lab Community Advisory Committee, a group of local residents organized last September, a member said at a meeting with USAMRIID officials. —Do you have to create an offensive capability to test a defensive measure? asked a committee member. The U.S. creation of biological arms was made illegal in 1969, but the group believed diseases released in a spray are usable as weapons, she said. To test the effectiveness of countermeasures against disease agents released into the air through a potential bioterrorism attack, scientists must disperse samples of disease agents in aerosolized form for inhalation by animal test subjects, a head viral therapeutics investigator said. Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20110201_4893.php

Malaysia releases GM mosquitoes in landmark trial. Malaysia has released 6,000 genetically modified mosquitoes designed to combat dengue fever, in a landmark trial slammed January 26 by environmentalists who say the experiment is unsafe. In the first experiment of its kind in Asia, about 6,000 male *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes were released at an uninhabited site in the central state of Pahang, the government-run Institute of Medical Research (IMR) said. The IMR, which was tasked with carrying out the trial, said the experiment was conducted on December 21 to “study the dispersal and longevity of these mosquitoes in the field”. “The experiment was successfully concluded on January 5, 2011,” the institute said in a statement dated January 25, adding that no further releases are planned until the trial results are analyzed. The insects in the experiment have been engineered so that their offspring quickly die, curbing the growth of the population in a technique researchers hope could eventually eradicate the dengue mosquito altogether. The trial has sparked widespread concern among environmental groups and non-government organizations. Critics have said that too little is known about the *Aedes* mosquito, and how the genetically modified insects would interact with their cousins in the wild. Source:

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http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gU3tkCTe5PhnICg-m-trAY58_Z_g?docId=CNG.f55f656a9f597ee071fe1ead97d63e4a.181

(New Jersey) EPA halts use and sale of disinfecting product. Concerned that using the Zimek Micro-Misting System could be hazardous to users, the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Region 2 has ordered a New Jersey ambulance company to stop using it to disinfect ambulances. EPA issued a Stop Use, Sale, or Removal order to the Monmouth-Ocean Hospital Service Corporation (MONOC). As a result, the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) is advising affiliates to ensure their departments also stop using the technology and product. The EPA order states the disinfectants used in the MONOC ambulances are likely to cause harm to humans when applied using the Zimek system. Source: <http://safety.blr.com/workplace-safety-news/hazardous-substances-and-materials/hazardous-materials/EPA-Halts-Use-and-Sale-of-Disinfecting-Product/>

(Ohio) FBI charges Ohio man with possessing toxin. Federal law enforcement officials announced the arrest of an Ohio man for possessing a toxin that can be used as a biological weapon January 28. FBI officers arrested the man after tests showed a substance removed from the Coventry Township man's home was ricin. Ricin is a poison manufactured from castor beans. The suspect was charged with one count of unlawful possession of a biological agent. Authorities do not believe the substance was to be used in a terrorist act. The arrest took place 3 days after special FBI hazardous materials teams from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Quantico, Virginia, Summit County sheriff's deputies, and firefighters from three Ohio departments responded to the suspect's home, which was in foreclosure. Tests conducted at the National Bioforensic Analysis Center in Maryland confirmed the substance was ricin, an FBI special agent said. "Ricin is a very poisonous toxin that certainly can be fatal if it's injected or you breathe it in or you eat it," he said. Source: http://articles.cnn.com/2011-01-28/us/ohio.ricin.arrest_1_castor-beans-ricin-ohio-man?s=PM:US

TRANSPORTATION

Senate would criminalize laser targeting of planes. Pointing hand-held lasers at aircraft — a growing problem aviation officials warned could lead to a crash — would become a federal crime punishable by up to 5 years in prison under an amendment proposed for a larger bill, approved by the U.S. Senate February 3. A Democratic Senator from Rhode Island and the sponsor of the amendment said he was responding to a surge in incidents where people have pointed at aircraft powerful lasers capable of temporarily blinding pilots. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said the number of incidents in which people pointed lasers at planes and helicopters nearly doubled last year, from 1,527 in 2009 to 2,836 in 2010. The FAA Administrator said that in some instances, pilots have had to relinquish control of their aircraft to another pilot because they could not see. Dozens of people in the United States and around the world have been arrested for pointing lasers at aircraft cockpits, most often near airports during takeoffs and landings. Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/02/03/senate-criminalize-laser-targeting-planes/>

FAA lets Jet Blue planes use satellite-based technology. Federal officials announced February 2 that JetBlue planes would begin using new satellite-based technology, so air traffic controllers could keep tabs on equipped planes at all times using a GPS-based system, rather than World War II-era radar technology. The "Next Generation" flight control system should help to boost on-time performance

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and avoid sky gridlock. The agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration will equip as many as 35 planes beginning in 2012, with the hope to install GPS nationwide to meet growing demand and eliminate blind spots in flight control. Source:

http://www.ny1.com/content/news_beats/transit/133345/faa-lets-jetblue-planes-use-satellite-based-technology/

FMCSA proposes EOBR mandate for all interstate drivers. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration is proposing that all interstate trucks and buses be equipped with electronic onboard recorders to track driver hours. The rule would apply to all carriers now required to maintain Records of Duty Status (aka logbooks), which amounts to 500,000 commercial carriers. The rule would not apply to short-haul interstate carriers that use timecards to document hours of service. The agency at the same time is proposing to relieve interstate carriers from certain supporting documents requirements for hours of service compliance. Motor carriers will be given 3 years from the effective date of the final rule to comply with these requirements. Under the proposal, violations of the EOBR requirement would face civil penalties of up to \$11,000 for each offense. Noncompliance would also negatively impact a carrier's safety fitness rating and Department of Transportation operating authority, the agency said. Source: http://www.truckinginfo.com/news/news-detail.asp?news_id=72842&news_category_id=3

WATER AND DAMS

E.P.A. plans first rules ever on perchlorate in drinking water. The U.S. Presidential Administration announced February 2 it planned to regulate toxic substances in drinking water more strictly and would issue the first limits ever on perchlorate, a dangerous chemical found in rocket fuel that has seeped into groundwater in at least 400 locations. The move, announced by the Environmental Protection Agency administrator is a major step toward modernizing the nation's clean water laws, which have lagged behind environmental and health science for decades. Numerous studies have found hundreds of industrial and agricultural chemicals, including several known carcinogens, are present in municipal water systems around the country. The nation's laws and enforcement programs have not kept pace, posing significant health risks to residents. Source:

<http://green.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/02/02/e-p-a-plans-strict-limits-on-toxic-chemicals-in-drinking-water/>

Report says fly ash sites leak chromium into water. Two southwestern Pennsylvania fly ash disposal sites are among 28 such sites in 17 states that have contaminated groundwater by leaking toxic, cancer-causing hexavalent chromium, according to a new report by Earthjustice and two other environmental groups. Unsafe hexavalent chromium levels were found in groundwater near a landfill used by Allegheny Energy's 1,710-megawatt Hatfield's Ferry power plant in Greene County, Pennsylvania; and around an unlined pond and landfill near the GenOn's Seward power plant in New Florence, Indiana County, the report found. Another Pennsylvania fly ash disposal site, an unlined pond used by PPL's Martins Creek power plant in Northampton County, in the eastern end of the state, was also on the report's list. The report released February 1 calls for tighter drinking water limits for chromium and federal regulations designating coal fly ash as a hazardous waste. The report was released on the eve of scheduled Senate testimony by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator about the public health concerns of contaminated drinking water and hexavalent

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chromium exposure. Studies by the EPA, the state of California and the agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry have found that exposure in drinking water to small amounts of hexavalent chromium can increase human cancer risk. Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/11033/1122250-455.stm>

Study: Amoebas in drinking water carry deadly diseases. Recent studies have unveiled amoebas in drinking water all over the world harboring detrimental, and sometimes deadly, diseases, Science News reported. While amoebas are known to trigger diseases, it has recently been discovered that many amoebas carry around harmful bacteria, not only protecting them from the disinfecting process in water treatment facilities, but allowing them to multiply at an exponential rate, according to the story. Though these studies are emerging, the U.S. is not required to screen for the amoebas, according to a researcher at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Exposure Research Laboratory in Cincinnati. The researcher recently conducted a study with a professor of the University of South Wales in Sydney to analyze data from 26 studies in 18 countries. All of these studies confirmed harmful amoebas in the drinking water, according to the article. Source: http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=75715

NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY CONTACTS

To report a homeland security incident, please contact your local law enforcement agency or one of these agencies: **Fusion Center (24/7):** 866-885-8295(IN ND ONLY); Email: ndslic@nd.gov ; Fax: 701-328-8175
State Radio: 800-472-2121 **Bureau of Criminal Investigation:** 701-328-5500 **Highway Patrol:** 701-328-2455
US Attorney's Office Intel Analyst: 701-297-7400 **Bismarck FBI:** 701-223-4875 **Fargo FBI:** 701-232-7241

To contribute to this summary or if you have questions or comments, please contact:

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